

Ontario Horticultural Association

Fall 2012





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Editor:

Linda Hugli 181 Garson-Coniston Rd. Garson, ON P3L 1G3

Phone: (705) 693-2476 Fax: (705) 693-5057

E-mail:

editor@gardenontario.org

Thanks for Visiting!

Niagara on the Lake, August 20th, 2012 - Well, we've successfully made it through the weekend - tired but happy. In response to our invitation, over 450 of you arrived and sampled some of the horticultural delights of our District. Thanks for visiting. Whenever you return, you know that the private gardeners in the area will always welcome you. We also hope you left understanding how important the horticulture industry is to our economy since our produce and products are shipped throughout Canada and the USA.



District 9 knows how to work together - 135 volunteers in total offered to don the green shirt. Hard work, countless hours, new friendships – priceless! Comments tell us the volunteers were visible, helpful, and cheerful. Delegates were pleased with the ease of moving about the venue due to the clear and plentiful signage. The vendors' aisle was a popular place. Many people went home with more 'stuff' than they came with.

Our program was designed to provide you with great speakers, diverse seminars, and many fascinating destinations on the tours. Comments from happy delegates lead us to believe that

we succeeded. Humorous and knowledgeable speakers informed and entertained us, adhering to the *Then & Now* theme in their respective topics of Garden Design, Garden Plant Choices by Consumers, and the Evolution of Gardening Literature.

Seminars tempted you in many ways, from wonderful plant material, ideas for our gardens or designs, the history of the plants, some methods for dealing with pests, the business of growing and selling, and improving your photographs to mention just a few. To prove horticulture is more than just planting, maintaining, and harvesting, we provided an unusual seminar - a culinary demonstration by Chef Jo Lusted, a local girl who has gone on to



the bright lights of television. Judging by the delegates taking copious notes before being treated to the samples from the kitchen, it was entertaining and informative.



The 17 different tours took you to private gardens where you talked to the enthusiastic owners. Businesses like Cosmic Orchid took you behind the scenes to see the production process. The many wineries seemed to be popular stops and a lot of wine went home with delegates. Those who visited the Butterfly Conservatory also went behind the scenes and later enjoyed the Botanical Gardens. Tours visited a wide range of retail operations and took home some treasures.

A permanent symbol of the convention is the "Autumn Brilliant" Serviceberry tree planted to commemorate the site of the OHA's 2012 Convention at Niagara College's Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus. Another successful feature was the Competitions. Entries were plentiful. The art showcased the talent of OHA members working in a variety of media. The flower show overcame the problem of fixed tables and displayed the entries beautifully. Many stopped to read through the various publications and take home some good ideas. The Youth room showed everyone that our young people can be successfully attracted to horticulture.

At the Saturday night Gala the names of the recipients of the Award of Merit, Community Improvement Award, Environmental Award, Youth Leader Award (2), and Silver Fir Award (2) were announced. This is a wonderful way for excellence to be recognized by the OHA. The Gala

keynote speaker, Trish Symons, taught us about the amazing "Gifts from the Garden" that are in our own gardens if we just take a moment to see.



The **Thunder Bay** group certainly grabbed our attention with their invitation to visit District 14 next summer. Some people have already started to make plans. Drive or fly, seems to be the question. Whatever your answer, it is certain you will enjoy it and learn many new things on the western shore of Lake Superior.

Commemorative Tree Planting



Pictured are left to right: Colleen Laverdiere, Assistant Director of District 9 OHA, Neil Miles, Lincoln Garden Club & Horticultural Society, James Graham, Vice President of OHA, Sue Lusted, Chair of the OHA Convention, and Carol Dunk, President of OHA plant an *Autumn Brilliant* Serviceberry tree with Niagara College President Dr. Dan Patterson, Dean: Environment, Media & Technology, Dr. Ben Cecil, and Manager of Campus Development and the Niagara College Greenhouse, Jim Thomson, to commemorate the site of the OHA's 2012 Convention at Niagara College's Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus.

Highlights from the Spring Board Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Ontario Horticultural Association met for its usual spring meeting on March 24 and 25, 2012. Below are some of the things that were discussed, decided, and acted upon.

OHA Tree Grant Increase: The OHA board voted to increase the amount of each tree grant to \$200 effective spring 2013. The grant can be used to purchase a public tree (or trees). Only trees will be reimbursed -- not shrubs or bushes. Societies are limited to one grant per society/per year and are able to apply for this award once every 3 years.

Society President Quick-Start Booklet: OHA Directors Judith Rogers and Sharon Nivins have completed a Society President's Quick Start-up Booklet to help new presidents get acquainted with their job. This publication is not intended as a replacement for the society binder. It is a guide to help first-time presidents as they get their feet wet in their new position. The OHA will publish up to a quantity of 500 copies on the first run. Copies will be distributed to new presidents through their District Directors.

New Member News: The OHA was pleased to grant membership in OHA to a new society, the Greater Toronto Bulb and Horticultural Society. The OHA president attended the first meeting and brought a welcome message as well as a society binder, a certificate of welcome, and a copy of the History of the OHA to the president of the new society. Working towards its incorporation and soon to be a new OHA member is the Wasaga Beach Horticultural Society.

OHA Judges Lists: District 8 Director Sharon Nivins is working with the judges to compile a comprehensive judging list. A web version of the judges' registry is being created where judges can choose to have their name and contact information listed on a public page on the OHA's web site. It is a work in progress. Please be patient.

Judging Schools Update: We have a new Judging School Coordinator, Jim Mabee, who will regulate and assist judging schools and judges' updates. Jim will be happy to answer your questions. His contact information is judging@gardenontario.org. Currently the judging school in District 11 is just ending and the school in District 16 has had its first session and is planning the next session in September.

Ontario Gardener: For the past season, OHA members have had their articles included in editions of the *Ontario Gardener Magazine*. Judith Rogers, Director, District 16, has coordinated this project. The project adds to the exposure the OHA has through the website, the *Trillium*, Facebook, and Twitter.

OHA Website: The OHA has a new Webmaster, Steve McKenna, Director, District 19. The board has budgeted for a rework of the website. Over the next year or so, changes will be made to the website to improve its visual appeal and make it easier to use.

Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth: To commemorate Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee, the Ontario Horticultural Association will award three grants of \$600 each to be given to a post-graduate student whose research is in an area that will benefit gardeners in Ontario. Awards have been given to three students, one from the Department of Plant Agriculture at the University of Guelph; one from the Department of Biology at York University; and one from the Department of Forestry at Lakehead University. Also, to commemorate the same event, the OHA, through its Districts, will plant a Bur Oak in each of its 19 Districts. Oaks were chosen because at the time of King George VI's Coronation, acorns from the oaks in Windsor Great Park at Windsor Castle were shipped to Canada to be planted across the country. "Coronation Oaks," as they were called, still stand in Ontario. An oak seemed an appropriate tree to commemorate the 60th anniversary of his daughter's Coronation. The Bur Oak was chosen because it has a wide range in Ontario.

Community Gardens: The OHA is establishing a grant program to support the creation or the upgrading of community gardens by a horticultural society. The board will approve the criteria for the grant at the fall Board Meeting. That criteria and an application form will be published in the Winter Trillium. There will be up to two \$500 grants awarded per year. Grants will be available to societies in the spring of 2013.

Fundraising: We are moving forward with a 2013 fundraiser involving two different types of bulbs, crocosmia (spring planting for summer bloom), and camassia (fall planting for spring bloom). Three colours will be available for each type of bulb.

The fundraiser will be conducted in the same way as the last fundraiser. Order deadline is November 1 to take advantage of 2012 prices. Delivery of crocosmia will be in the spring 2013 and the camassia in the fall 2013. Packages will sell for \$7. The societies will receive \$1 from the sale of each package. District Directors will be contacting societies with information. Contact Rose Odell at arnaro@sympatico.ca for more details.

Seeds of Diversity Canada: The OHA will support Seeds of Diversity Canada's resolve to seek funding for a mutual initiative with fully shared goals and outcomes for the direct benefit of Seedy Saturday events and their local organizing committees.

Postcards: The new OHA postcards entitled "What's the buzz – Join your local horticultural society and find out" are done and are ready to order through Don Matthews, Supplies.

Conventions: Future conventions were discussed at our board meeting with the following locations decided on:

2013 Convention - Thunder Bay, District 14

2014 Convention - Cornwall, District 1

Also in the works are conventions in District 6 and District 19.

A Convention Committee to assist convention hosts and give continuity to the tasks of the conventions is being formed.

Youth and Police Checks: OHA plans to assure that all youth leaders have police checks and will pay for a one-time check for youth leaders in 2013.

As you can see, we did a bundle of work. The number of items we were able to cover was possible because of the caliber of District Directors elected by the societies at spring AGMs. One couldn't ask for a more hard-working and congenial group than that of the Directors of 2011/2012.

Carol Dunk, August 2012

President's Message

It was a very enjoyable 106th Convention and AGM which was held at Niagara College in Niagara-on-the-Lake. It was also the largest OHA meeting in several years with some 450 delegates and guests. Our congratulations and thanks to Director Susan Lusted and her host of smiling and helpful volunteers who provided us with a programme of speakers and seminars that explored gardening past and present. Niagara College has a culinary programme that provided fresh interesting and delicious meals. They also have a horticultural programme and many of us drove away with mums and hostas filling the backs of our cars.

On Sept. 26th, 19 societies (one per district) will mark the 60th anniversary of the Queen's reign by planting bur oaks or red maples. The three northern districts will actually plant in the spring to give the trees a better start.

Your Board will continue with the action plan laid out last spring by President Carol. Key among those plans is the drive to increase our societies' memberships. A trophy was donated this year and will be awarded to the district with the largest percentage increase. Your Board will also be looking for strategies to improve our services to you and to our communities. We welcome your ideas and comments. With your support I look forward to the year ahead and its challenges.

From the Secretary's Desk

The OHA Convention in Niagara-on-the-Lake was fabulous! District 9 took pride in showing Ontario gardeners the rich horticultural heritage of Niagara and eastern Haldimand where the Niagara Escarpment and Lakes Ontario and Erie provide climatic conditions affording opportunities for plant choices and cultural procedures not possible in most of Ontario.

It was a phenomenal site to see the "Gardening Then and Now - 1812 to 2012" theme brought to fruition, an amazing display of horticultural heritage. Great programs, competitions, speakers, food, and renewal of friendships were had. Congratulations to District 9!

On a more serious note, we are already thinking about our next convention in Thunder Bay.

Now posted on GardenOntario.org are three forms which your Youth Leaders will need. Please distribute these to your Youth leaders as soon as possible. If you have any questions about these forms, please contact Youth Competition Chair, Anna Peterson at 519-284-0179 or email agp@quadro.net

Kelly Taylor, OHA Secretary secretary@gardenontario.org 519-452-0864

OHA Awards Recognizing Extraordinary Volunteerism!



Award of Merit 2012 Awarded to Bev Silk

Bev Silk has been involved in horticultural society activities for 19 years. She started her volunteer work as a member of the Scarborough Society for 6 years. Her contributions include Financial Auditor, Flower Show Clerk, Plant Sales Helper, Trillium Award Judge, Exhibitor, and Social Committee Member. In 1996, she joined another society with new duties such as convention delegate, district delegate, updating the Constitution, overseer of the flower show, and so on. She has been a conveyor for numerous committees, which include Flower Shows, Programming, Yearbook, Newsletters, and Canada Day Float. Other committees not mentioned are Community Planting, Lilacs 2000, and the Heritage Park in her town. She has held all executive board level positions including President. At the district level she has served

as Assistant Director and Secretary. She organized tulip sales and was instrumental in making a new district banner that was quilted with the help of others. As a recipient of the Youth Leader Award her attributes with the youth and Youth Camp at the Annual 2009 Convention have been recognized. Finally at the community level she is involved with a program called the "100 Mile Diet" which is held at the Grafton United Church in September. The Ontario Horticultural Association is pleased to present the Award of Merit to Bev Silk, District 4.

Community Improvement Award 2012 Awarded to Oakville Horticultural Society

The Oakville Horticultural Society, in 2012, took on the challenge of the United Nations General Assembly whereby they took action to safeguard the variety of life on Earth, upon which our lives depend. To mark the International Year of Biodiversity, one society proposed creating a new bio-diverse garden in a parkette. In 1961, this society had created a public garden in this parkette. Benches were dedicated and volunteers of the society and the community tended the garden. With road repairs and removal of water scheduled in 2011, it was time for a makeover. This plan was born in 2010 to commemorate the International Year of Biodiversity. With proceeds from a wonderful evening with Freeman Patterson, the society set out to make it happen. A landscaping company offered to design this model water-efficient garden of life. Their goal to create a beautiful space that meets the needs of the community while supporting the environment was underway with the spring planting of 2011. It was



designed to provide year-round beauty while supporting pollinators and area wildlife. Also, in 2012 the town installed a new permeable paving material. It is a porous pavement system made from recycled glass that is intended to reduce storm water runoff and conserve resources. This pathway will be monitored for suitability in other public spaces. This trial public garden will also be monitored for plant suitability and will evolve under the care of the society. It will be used as a site for education and enjoyment for the community for years to come. The Ontario Horticultural Association is pleased to present the Community Improvement Award to the Oakville Horticultural Society for renewing the Anderson Bridge Parkette, District 6. Catherine Kavassalis, pictured above, accepted the award on behalf of the Oakville Society at the OHA Banquet on Saturday, August 18th.



Environmental Award 2012 – Nicola Hall, District 15

Nicola Hall recognized that a unique local park was home to many wildlife species. It has a lake created from storm water runoff and forested areas that give it a wilderness feel inside the city. Over the past 10 years, the habitat has been deteriorating due to neglect. Oil dumping through the sewer system, vandalism, littering, and human encroachment have taken a toll. Nicola recognized the urgency and enlisted support from area residents to create an environmental group. Starting from scratch, she built a relationship with the city and various departments promoting the need for community events to raise awareness in areas such as naturalization of the site and teaching the community the

benefits of co-existing with the wildlife that call this lake their home. Generous funding from the city and a Trillium Grant has provided projects such as a floating island, providing filtration of the lake by plants, nesting boxes for ducks, basking logs for turtles, and accessible park benches for people. A community bulletin board will update the community of upcoming events, bird species, and migration patterns. A butterfly garden was also established. She has promoted through the concept "think global and act local". To date, the workshops and educational events engage more than 200 volunteers. The local Rotary Club has stepped up to help with planning and reporting. As well, the city continues to work with the group and provides ongoing maintenance. Nicola realized the key to success and survival of the lake depended on her ability to motivate people. The threat of loss of habitat for the lake made a huge impact on her and she was determined to make an equally significant impact on Lake Wabukayne. The Ontario Horticultural Association is pleased to present the Environmental Award to Nicola Hall, District 15 for her hard work and dedication to this project.

Youth Leader Award 2012 – Sandra Cressman, District 19 and Bev Silk, District 4

Sandra Cressman has held several positions in the organization: Board of Directors, Program Committee, Membership Committee, Flower Show Committee and since 1988 working with the Junior Gardener Program. She received the Ontario Volunteer Service Award for 15 years of service in 2004. As a youth leader, she works tirelessly with the youth. This program sponsored by the society, is intended for Grades 1-12. Flower and vegetable seeds are supplied to the youth to plant in May. The requirements for their gardens are set out and in August, she and her helpers judge the gardens. Monetary prizes are awarded by the society in September when they focus on the youth and their accomplishments. As well, the youth are encouraged to exhibit flower and vegetable specimens from their gardens at the societies booth at the Agricultural Fair in September. In conjunction with our Annual Spring Flower Show, there is a children's competition where she encourages the youth members to enter garden flowers, decorative designs, written and/or art work. Some of these entries are entered in the Youth Competition at the Ontario Horticultural Association Convention. In 2009 and 2010 these youth received the Ruby Lobban Award for earning the highest number of points in the children's competition.

Also, for several years now some of these youth have participated in the Youth Camp held during the Annual Ontario Horticultural Association's Convention with the youth leader's encouragement. Her society is appreciative of her leadership in the Junior Gardeners Program. Her dedication is outstanding. Her enthusiasm and winning smile enhance her role. The Ontario Horticultural Association is pleased to present the Youth Leader Award to Sandra Cressman, District 19.

Bev Silk's ongoing activities and contributions to her society's youth group are many. They meet once monthly from September to June. She arranges for guest speakers who present a variety of topics and activities. Bev changes the activities yearly to allow for a variety of garden related lessons to be enjoyed by



our youth. A significant project of the youth group has been the vegetable garden at a public school in the area. She works with the members providing instruction and planting vegetables, flowers, and gourds. At the end of the season she takes the youth members to the Local Food Bank where they donate their year's harvest. She also submitted an application for a Trillium Grant to upgrade the vegetable gardens and floral display at the school. She demonstrates excellent organizational skills that keep the youth gardeners well informed and busy throughout the year. As well as working with the youth, she is actively involved with the society convening events and working on various committees. She has also served at the society board level since 2001. At the district level she has served as Assistant Director and now as Secretary. She played a major role in the 2009 Annual Ontario Horticultural Association Convention working with the Organizing Committee and volunteering during the event. She also coordinated the organization and staffing of the Youth Camp, as well as finding most of the funding for this successful youth event. She is a cheerful person who is highly organized and very creative. She displays an overwhelming love of children and is dedicated to her work with youth. She is patient and consistently offers encouragement. She is an excellent role model for our gardeners of tomorrow. The Ontario Horticultural Association is pleased to present the Youth Leader Award to Bev Silk, District 4.

Continued....

Silver Fir Award 2012 – Phillip Kennedy, District 3 and Jim Mabee, District 10

Phillip Kennedy joined the local society in 1995 and became President in 2001. By 2005 he was District Director and was a frequent visitor to all his societies. He was a popular speaker covering a variety of topics. He worked closely with a secondary school where he monitored many students in greenhouse co-operative education placements, sharing his passion for botany. He has worked with them on diverse projects, from creating an indoor constructed wetlands facility, a naturalized courtyard and specialized plant habitats, to developing an organic pest control reference binder and an off-site tree nursery. Perhaps most importantly, he worked with students not easily placed in community settings. He demonstrated unlimited patience and worked hard to find the gold in each individual he worked with. He received the Sewing Seeds Award in 2005. He rescued heritage apple stocks when a local collector was unable to continue with the project. In his own garden, he grew, dug, and donated plants to support his society and others. He has always been involved at the annual fairs promoting his society and the Ontario Horticultural Association.

During the months of planning leading up to the 2007 International Ploughing Match he invested himself totally in the success of the horticultural segment. He provided leadership and encouragement to all societies, acting as liaison between the societies' teams and the IMP organizers. He has participated on PEC Communities in Bloom Board for the past eight years. He has been key in choosing gardens for the annual garden tours along with acting as an experienced Master Gardener during the event. The board members of his society are very proud to be associated with such a knowledgeable and giving man. The Ontario Horticultural Association is pleased to present the Silver Fir Award to Phillip Kennedy, District 3, pictured below at left.



Jim Mabee was a founding member of his society where he held executive positions on the He also worked on board. society committees, including those beautifying the cemetery, hospital gardens, Legion and the Library. He was involved with plant sales and auctions, and produced the society newsletter. His contributions have been acknowledged through following awards: District Service Award, Horticultural Society Service Certificate, and Government Ontario Volunteer Service Award - 25 year pin 2008.

Beyond the borders of his home he has made a personal contribution to the growth and good governance of the Ontario Horticultural Association. He joined the district board and was District Director for 5 years. During that period, the district hosted the convention. He carried on through the ranks and served as President committing time, experience, and team building skills to the task. He was also Co-Principal of the District Judging School, completed in 2009. He is a member of many societies, such as the Canadian and North American Gladiolus Councils, North American and Canadian Peony Societies, Ontario Regional and North American Lily Societies, and the William Saunders Rose Society.

Among his many special interests are rare and universal tropical plants, floral design, and Gladiolus and Calla Lily breeding, which has become a passion. He began hybridizing Gladiolus in 1989. One of his crosses called "Muriel Eugene" named after his mother, was introduced to the American Gladiolus Council in 1999. He is a Certified Design and Horticultural Judge, an accredited Ontario Garden Clubs Design Judge, and an International Lily Judge, which has taken him as far as Edmonton, Wisconsin, Chicago, and Boston. He has given floral design classes and judging update courses in numerous societies in Ontario. The Ontario Horticultural Association is pleased to present the Silver Fir Award to Past President Jim Mabee, District 10.

Convention 2012 Horticulture & Design Competition Results

Design:	Class 10: Wine & Roses
0	1 st Elizabeth Matheson
Class 1: Electricity	2 nd Mary-Ann Vercammen
1 st Elizabeth Schleicher	3 rd Sandra Williamson
2 nd Nancy Wilson	HM Emily Henkelman
3 rd Lil Taggart	HM Rosi Mikolajewski
HM Melanie Marjoram	Class 11: After The Theatre
Class 2: Along The Lakeshore	1 st Lil Haworth
1 st Rosi Mikolajewski	2 nd Sandra Williamson
2 nd Letty Barolett	3 rd Nancy Wilson
3 rd Nancy Wilson	HM Hilary Bellis
Class 3: Midsummer Night	Best In Show: Class 10 – Elizabeth Matheson
1 st Marie Decker	Judge's Choice: Class 5 – Sandra Williamson
2 nd Lil Taggart	
3 rd Barb Bedell	Horticultural:
Class 4: Urban Steel	
1 st Lil Taggart	Section A: Annuals
2 nd Melanie Marjoram	Class 12 - Asters - No Entries
3 rd Dave Archer	Class 13 - Cosmos
HM Sandra Williamson	1 st N/A
Class 5: Global Connections	2 nd N/A
1 st Sandra Williamson	3 rd Letty Barolett
2 nd Bonnie Priest	Class 14 - Geranium
3 rd Madeline Archer	1 st Gillian Wood
Class 6: Summer Harvest	2 nd N/A
1 st Elizabeth Matheson	3 rd N/A
2 nd Lil Taggart	Class 15 - Marigold - 2.5-7.5 cm
3 rd Melanie Marjoram	1 st B. Blythin
HM Kathy Lindsay	1 st Rosi Mikolajewski
HM Louise Van Atte	2 nd B. Blythin
Class 7: Tendrils – Fresh Miniature	2 nd Mary Cameron
1 st Sheila King	3 rd B. Blythin
2 nd Elizabeth Schleicher	3 rd Lil Haworth
3 rd Marie Decker	HM Melanie Marjoram
HM Mary Ann Purcell	Class 16 - Marigold - 7.5 & Over - No Entries
HM Louise Van Atte	Class 17 - Petunia - Single - No Entries
Class 8: Tendrils – Dried Miniature	Class 18 - Petunia - Semi-Double/Double
1 st Marie Decker 2 nd Louise Van Atte	1 st B. Blythin
	2 nd N/A
3 rd Sheila King	3 rd N/A
HM Elizabeth Schleicher	Class 19 - Salvia
Class 9: Exploring The Bruce	$1^{\text{st}}_{\text{rd}}$ N/A
1 st Sandra Williamson	2 nd Melanie Marjoram
2 rd Barb Bedell	3^{rd} N/A
3 rd Diane Hockey	Class 20 - Snapdragon
HM Madeline Archer	1^{st} N/A
HM Melanie Marjoram	2 nd Mary Cameron
	3 rd N/A

Horticultural Cont'd

Class 21 - Sunflower

1st Melanie Marjoram

2nd Mary Cameron

3rd S. Ross

Class 22 - Zinnia

1st Mary Cameron

2nd Mary Cameron

3rd N/A

Class 23 – Any Other Annual

1st R. Theoret

2nd David Archer

3rd Melanie Marjoram

Section B - Hardy Perennials/Biennials

Class 24 - Coreopsis

1st B. Blythin

2nd N/A

3rd N/A

Class 25 - Echinacea

1st N/A

2nd N/A

3rd Mary Cameron

Class 26 - Hosta - Solid Colour

1st Gloria Broks

1st Marie Decker

2nd Melanie Marjoram

2nd Elizabeth Schiecher

3rd Mary Cameron

3rd Marie Decker

HM Mary Cameron

HM M. Laman

Class 27 - Hosta - Variegated

1st Gloria Broks

1st Mary Cameron

2nd Mary Cameron

2nd R. Theoret

3rd Marie Decker

3rd J. Laman

HM Marie Decker

HM Melanie Marjoram

HM Elizabeth Schiecher

Class 27 - Heuchera

1st Marie Decker

1st Gillian Wood

2nd Gloria Broks

2nd M. Laman

3rd B. Blythin

3rd Marie Decker

HM Melanie Marjoram

HM Melanie Marjoram

Horticultural Cont'd

Class 29 - Phlox

1st Melanie Marjoram

2nd Jean Gordon

3rd Mary Cameron

Class 30 - Rudbeckia

1st Mary Cameron

2nd B. Blythin

3rd Melanie Marjoram

HM M. Laman

Class 31 - Ornamental Grass, Sedge or Rush

1st Mary Cameron

1st Rosi Mikolajewski

1st Gillian Wood

2nd B. Blythin

2nd B. Blythin

2nd Gillian Wood

3rd B. Blythin

3rd Mary Cameron

HM S. Ross

Class 32 – Any Other Perennial

1st Melanie Marjoram

2nd Jean Gordon

3rd Melanie Marjoram

HM Melanie Marjoram

Section C - Flowering Bulbs, Corms, Rhizomes &

Tubers

Class 33 - Begonia

1st B. Blythin

2nd N/A

3rd N/A

Class 34 - Small Dahlia

1st Melanie Marjoram

2nd Melanie Marjoram

3rd Mary Cameron

HM B. Blythin

Class 35 - Large Dahlia

1st Gillian Wood

2nd Roland Craig

Class 36 - Gladiolus

1st B. Blythin

2nd B. Blythin

3rd Melanie Marjoram

HM Letty Barolett

HM Melanie Marjoram



Section C - Flowering Bulbs, Corms, Rhizomes & **Section E – Potted Plants** Tubers Cont'd. **Class 45 - Decorative Foliage** Class 37 - Any Other Flowering Bulb, Etc. 1st C. McGill 2nd Lil Haworth 1st Letty Barolett 3rd Rosi Mikolajewski 1st B. Blythin 1st Gillian Wood HM Emily Henkleman 2nd Melanie Marjoram HM Melanie Marjoram 2nd Gillian Wood **Class 46 - Plant Grown for Blooms** 3rd Melanie Marjoram 1st Mary-Ann Vercammen 3rd Melanie Marjoram **Class 47 - African Violet** 3rd Mary-Ann Vercammen 1st Emily Henkleman 2nd Emily Henkleman 3rd B. Blythin Section D - Roses Class 48 - Any Other Gesnariad - No Entries Class 38 - Hybrid Tea Class 49 - Orchid - No Entries 1st B. Blythin 1st R. Theoret Class 50 - Cactus 1st Rosi Mikolajewski 1st Gillian Wood 2nd B. Blythin **Class 51 - Any Other Succulent** 2nd Gloria Broks 1st Gillian Wood 2nd P. Murphy 3rd L. Asschert 3rd Gloria Broks 3rd Melanie Marjoram 3rd Gillian Wood **Section F-Flowering or Fruiting Branches or Vines** Class 39 - Floribunda 1st Roland Craig Class 52 - Clematis 1st Mary Cameron 2nd Gloria Broks 2nd Gloria Broks 3rd Gillian Wood Class 40 - Grandiflora Class 53 - Hydrangea 1st N/A 1st Mary Cameron 2nd R. Theoret 1st Mary Cameron 3rd N/A 1st Melanie Marjoram 2nd Melanie Marjoram Class 41 - Grandiflora 2nd Gillian Wood 1st Mary Cameron 2nd N/A 2nd Gillian Wood 3rd N/A 3rd Letty Barolet Class 42 – Any Other Modern Shrub Class 54 - Buddleia 1st Mary Cameron 1st Jean Gordon 2nd R. Theoret 2nd Mary Cameron 3rd Melanie Marjoram 3rd Gloria Broks HM Elizabeth Schleicher **Class 55 - Any Other Flowering Branch** 1st Melanie Marjoram Class 43 - Miniature 2nd Melanie Marjoram 1st Gloria Broks 2nd Mary Cameron 3rd R. Theoret 3rd Elizabeth Schleicher **Class 56 - Fruiting Branch or Vine** 1st N/A HM R. Theoret 2nd B. Blythin Class 44 – Full Blown Floating in a Bowl 3rd S. Ross 1st Gloria Broks 2nd B. Blythin **Section G - Collections** 2nd R. Theoret **Class 57 – Mixed Cut Garden Flowers** 3rd Gloria Broks 1st Barb Bedell 3rd J. Laman 2nd Melanie Marjoram

Mary Cameron

Section G – Collections Cont'd Class 58 – Cut Garden Foliage

1st B. Blythin

2nd Mary Cameron

3rd Gillian Wood

HM Emily Henkleman

Class 59 - Roses

1st Mary Cameron

2nd N/A

3rd N/A

Class 60 - Dahlias

1st Roland Craig

2nd N/A

3rd N/A

Class 61 – Cut Herbs

1st Lil Haworth

2nd Gillian Wood

3rd Marie Decker

HM Gloria Broks

HM Mary Cameron

Best In Show - Class 51 - Gillian Wood

Judge's Choice - Class 45 - C. McGill

Creative Writing Competition

Class 1 ABC:

1^{st}	Fleurette Huneault	Gloucester	D2
2^{nd}	Susan Morley	Chinguacousy	D15
3^{rd}	Brenda Stericker	Waterloo	D19
4 th	Jacqueline Briggs	Creemore	D16
5 th	Carla Ann Kuchard	Thorold	D9

Class 2 Free Verse:

131	Marılyn Boyle	Thunder Bay	D14
2^{nd}	Brenda Stericker	Waterloo	D19
3^{rd}	Jacqueline Briggs	Creemore	D16
4^{th}	Carla Ann Kuchard	Thorold	D9

Class 3 Story:

1^{st}	Sylvia Grant	Guelph	
2^{nd}	Carla Ann Kuchard	Thorold	D9
3^{rd}	Brenda Stericker	Waterloo	D19
4^{th}	Barbara Johnston	Niagara Falls	D9

Best of Show: Marilyn Boyle- Free Verse

Ted Reed Website Competition

Malcolm Geast, Past District 5 Director, is the judge of the web competition again this year. Thank you to Malcolm for his dedication judging the web pages of all of the horticultural societies. I continue to appreciate the efforts of all of the volunteers who maintain their societies' web sites. I encourage you to review the web sites of the winners below.

Class 1: GardenOntario web shells using standard features as outlined in the manual "Garden Webs for Societies" or "Garden Webs for Districts" (as appropriate).

1st: Collingwood Horticultural Society www.gardenontario.org/site.php/collingwood

2nd: Bolton & District Horticultural Society www.gardenontario.org/site.php/bdhs

3rd: Stoney Creek Garden Club & HS www.gardenontario.org/site.php/stoneycreek

Class 2: Horticultural Society web sites outside of GardenOntario.org Web Shells (including web sites hosted on GardenOntario.org subdomains.)



1st: Omemee & District Horticultural Society www.omemeeblooms.ca

2nd: Perth & District Horticultural Society www.perthhortsociety.com

3rd: Pine Ridge Garden Club www.pineridgegardenclub.ca

Jeff Blackadar, Website Competition Chair

2012 Photography Competition

Class 1 - "What did they Grow to Eat"

1st Marjorie Dow, Fergus H.S. D 7
 2nd Judy McGrath, Pakenham H.S. D 2
 3rd Marie Decker, Oakville H.S. D 6

Class 2 – "What did they Grow to Admire"

1st Kathy Ward, Stoney Creek H.S., D 6 2nd Marjorie Dow, Fergus H.S. D 7 3rd Jacqueline Briggs, Oakville H.S. D 6

Class 3 - "Splish/Splash"

1st Kathy Ward, Stoney Creek H.S., D 6
 2nd Barbara Rycquart, Tillsonburg, H.S., D 10
 3rd Art Ward, Stoney Creek H.S. D 6

Class 4 – "The Ancient One(s)"

John Tibbles, Sault Ste Marie H.S. D 13
 Barbara Rycquart, Tillsonburg, D 10
 Carol Dobrindt, St Catharines H.S., D 9

Class 5 – "They were there before Europeans came"

1st Linda Earl, Athens G. C. & H.S. D 3
 2nd Carol Dobrindt, St Catharines H.S., D 9
 3rd James Tibbles, Sault Ste Marie H.S. D 13

Class 6 – "Daylily Delight"

1st R.A. Caister, District 15

2nd Jacqueline Briggs, Creemore H.S., D 16
 3rd Emily Dobrata, Blenheim Harwich H.S. D 11

Class 7 – "Overflowing with Flowers"

1st Barbara Rycquart, Tillsonburg, H.S., D 10

2nd Marie Decker, Oakville H.S. D 6 3rd Marjorie Dow, Fergus H.S. D 7

Class 8 - "Orchid(s)"

1st Fleurette Huneault, Gloucester H.S. D 2
 2nd James Tibbles, Sault Ste Marie H.S. D 13
 3rd Judy McGrath, Pakenham H.S. D 2

Class 9 – "Whispering in the North Wind"

John Tibbles, Sault Ste. Marie H.S. D 13
 James Tibbles, Sault Ste Marie H.S. D 13
 Barbara Rycquart, Tillsonburg H.S. D 10

Class 10 - "It's a Rocky Business"

1st Cecile McCraig, Sault Ste Marie H.S. D 13
 2nd Emily Dobrata, Blenheim-Harwich H.S. D 11
 3rd R.A. Caister, D 15

*Best In Show – Class 8 Fleurette Huneault, Gloucester H.S., D 2

Jennifer Plaus, Chair Photography Competition

Art Competition

Class 1 – "Wine Country"

1st Lorraine McLean - D4

2nd Sheila King - D2

Class 2 – "Niagara Falls"

1st Sheila King - D2 2nd Allen Tomlinson - D16 3rd Phyllis Leger - D4

Class 3 – "Butterfly Conservatory"

1st Kees Stryland - D12 2nd Sheila King - D2 3rd Pam Sangster - D8

Class 4 - "Garden Scene"

1st Erika North - D14 2nd Liz Sangster - D8 3rd Sheila King - D2

Class 5 - "Honeymoon Capital"

1st Joan Barron - D9 2nd Lenna Broatch - D4

Class 6 -"Rainbows"

 1^{st} Sheila King - D2 2^{nd} Kees Stryland - D12 3^{rd} Liz Sangster - D8

Class 8 – "Fields of Flowers"

1st Sheila King - D2 2nd Susan Morley - D15

Class 9 – "Grapes"

1st Phyllis Leger - D4

Classes 7 & 10 - no entries

Best In Show: Joan Barron - D9 (Class 5)



Rose Odell, Art Competition Chair

Publications Competition

Class 1 – Yearbook cover, primarily hand drawn

1st Perth HS, D2 2nd Clinton HS, D5

3rd Lake Simcoe South Shore HS, D5

Class 2 – Yearbook Cover, computer generated graphics

1st Alliston & Dist. HS, D16 2nd Harriston & Dist. HS, D7

Class 3 – Yearbook cover, primarily photographic

1st Niagara Falls HS, D9
 2nd North York GC, D5
 3rd Gloucester HS, D2

Class 4 – Special Event Poster

1st Oro-Medonte HS, D8
 2nd Cloverleaf GC, D15
 3rd Sudbury HS, D13

Class 5 – Special Event Brochure/Flyer

1st Leaside Garden Soc, D2
 2nd Georgetown HS, D7
 3rd Sudbury HS, D13

Class 6 – Society Brochure/Flyer

1st Mount Albert GC, D3

2nd Lennox & Addington HS, D3

3rd Leamington HS, D11

Class 7 – Newsletter cover,

>11 pages, hand drawn

1st Lennox & Addington HS, D3

2nd Atikokan HS, D14 3rd Lake Simcoe GC, D5

Class 8 – Newsletter cover, >11 pages, photographic ill.

1st Brooklin HS, D17

2nd Greater Toronto Water Garden & HS, D8

3rd Mount Albert GC, D3

Class 9 – Newsletter cover,

>11 pages, computer graphics

1st Sudbury HS, D13 2nd Leamington HS, D11 3rd Pelham HS, D9

Class 10 – Youth Journal/Scrapbook

1st Grafton HS, D4 (pictured at right)
2nd Cloverleaf GC of Mississauga, D15
3rd Coldwater & District HS, D16

Class 11 – Society Bookmark

1st Oro-Medonte HS, D16 2nd Lakefield & District HS, D4 3rd Brampton HS, D15

Class 12 – Recycle Publication item – no entries

Class 13 – Society Promotional/Partnership

1st Brampton HS, D15 2nd Brooklin HS, D17

3rd Leaside Garden Society, D5

Class 14 – 2011 Yearbook, full letter size

1st Georgetown HS, D6
 2nd Sudbury HS, D13
 3rd Gloucester HS, D2

Class 15 – 2011 Yearbook, folded into booklet

1st Midland HS, D16

2nd Richmond Hill Garden & HS, D15

3rd Guelph Township HS, D7

Class 16 – 2011 Yearbook, legal size folded

1st Parry Sound & District HS, D18 2nd Lakefield & District HS, D4

3rd Cramahe HS, D4

Class 17 – 2011 Youth Yearbook

1st Mount Albert Garden & HS, D5 2nd Guelph Township HS, D7

Class 18 - Current Show Schedule

1st Pelham HS, D9

2nd Chinguacousy Garden Club, D15

3rd Brampton HS, D15



Maison Vale Hospice WALK OF LIFE

During the early planning stages of the 105th Ontario Horticultural Association Convention held in Sudbury in July 2011, District 13 Director Suzanne Hanna sought and received permission from Spanish Horticultural Society to borrow their picket fence idea. Her vision was to get OHA Societies and members, throughout the province, involved, interested and eager to participate in the convention planning – and it worked!

Pickets, supports and feet were made, and then primed, by District 13 members. They were distributed throughout the nineteen OHA Districts. Members were asked to paint a nature-inspired design on the front of their



picket, and sign or identify the artistic society, district and/or members on the back of their picket. All pickets were returned to Suzanne prior to the convention. On the Friday of the convention, pickets were assembled into sections, and displayed at the Sunday morning plenary session. OHA Youth Camp participants at Camp Falcona also had the opportunity to paint a picket fence section. What talented members belong to OHA!



In early 2011, Suzanne offered the picket fence, upon completion, to Maison Vale Hospice Director, Leo Therrien. He ran it by their Board of Directors, and they eagerly accepted.

The finished sections were sealed to protect them against the elements. Since late last summer, some sections continue to adorn the porch, hallways, reception area, foyer and contemplative area at the Hospice. And now, sections stand outside in the gardens amongst the flowers and shrubbery, in front of the Hospice and along the boardwalk leading to the gazebo alongside Bethel Lake.

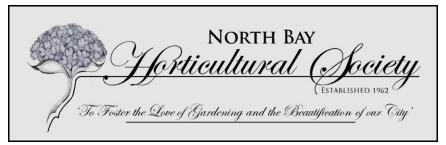
On Sunday, June 10, 2012, Maison Vale Hospice *Walk of Life* was unveiled. This barrier-free walkway connects residents and their families to natural woodland which includes a number of gardens, contemplative spaces, a dock, a patio, and a gazebo on the shores of Bethel Lake. The Walk of Life is inlayed with Memory Stones dedicated to donors' loved ones. At the ceremony, Leo Therrien praised the MANY volunteers and donors – individuals, organizations, small and large businesses, corporations – also acknowledging OHA for the picket fences.

Theresa Cullum, Sudbury Horticultural Society

You Go, Girls!

Faye Craig is understandably proud of her Arthur Horticultural Society Youth Group members. The girls decided that they will be donating their Convention prize earnings to their 9 year old friend Sheyanne O'Donnell, which will go towards her Cancer treatment expenses. The photo shows Faye and 5 of her 20 Youth Members holding their prize winning exhibits from the Convention. They are, from left to right: Chloe Meyers, Brenna Charlton, Chelsea Lindo, Aislinn Charlton, and Claudia Meyers.





50 Years Old and Still Growing!

The North Bay Horticultural Society gratefully acknowledges the contribution of the many people who made our history possible. The first known organization of a horticultural group in North Bay was the North Bay Agricultural Society which held its first annual meeting on 21 January 1921 where its Constitution and Bylaws were adopted. In 1924 membership fees were established at \$1.00 and in 1928 there were 232 members. The society operated in association with the Department of Agriculture until 1929, during which time it received annual grants from the department which varied from \$49 to \$92 per year. Thereafter it seems to have continued to operate but independently. Nothing further is known about this early group except that it was officially dissolved, according to government records, in 1942.

North Bay still benefits today from one of the major projects of this first society, the installation of a fountain in front of the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption at the intersection of streets called at the time, Klock, McIntyre and Foren Street. The fountain was purchased in 1923 from the Architectural and Bronze Works in Toronto at a cost of \$290.

The first meeting of the Greater North Bay Horticultural Society (GNBHS) was held at City Hall on 24 May 1962. At the time, Widdifield and West Ferris townships were still not part of North Bay and the name reflected the goal to include these areas, as well as Callander. Although Callander formed its own society and the townships were incorporated into North Bay in 1968, the name was not formally changed to the North Bay Horticultural Society until February 1977. The Society's first banner was commissioned to be made by Bay City Signs in August 1962. The Society's first year of operation was a very successful one and in recognition of this, it was awarded a Certificate of Merit by its parent organization, the Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA). North Bay was fortunate enough to be chosen as the host location for the district meeting in 1967, thereby adding to its centennial events. district meeting was held in North Bay again in 1974 and many times since then. The Ontario Horticultural Association was created by an Act of the Provincial Legislature in 1906. The province was subsequently divided into Districts, and now there are 13 Societies in our District 18, located in Central Ontario: Argyle, Baysville, Bracebridge, Callander, Gravenhurst, Huntsville, North Bay, Parry Sound, Powassan, Rosseau, Sprucedale, Sundridge and Whitestone.

Over the years, monthly meetings have been held at the Department of Parks and Recreation Office, the Widdifield Township Council Chambers, the West Ferris Community Centre, St. Andrew's United Church Hall, Chippewa Secondary School, Cassellholme and presently Christ Church. The mandate of all Horticultural Societies is to encourage horticulture and related activities among its members and the greater public. This has been accomplished by having monthly business meetings, educational presentations of interest to members, flower arranging demonstrations, guest speakers, hands-on workshops, field trips, garden tours, monthly competitions, members writing personal newspaper articles, annual flower shows and plant sales open to the public.

Civic beautification has included planters at the Public Library, Northgate Square Shopping Centre, the Police Station and the Chamber of Commerce and plantings at Canadore College, Delandrea Place, the Wildflower Bed at Hwy 11 and 17, the Waterfront, and the Bank of Montreal. In 2005, the Society hosted the Annual OHA Convention at Nipissing University with 606 members attending from across Ontario. The Convention was a huge success due to the fantastic efforts of all the district societies who have been strongly united due to the yearlong preparations while visiting with each society.

Juniors have been encouraged and involved with the Society learning about plants, seeds and gardening since 1969. Bursaries have been offered to students going on to study in the area of horticulture, floriculture or landscape design since 1967. The monthly bulletin or newsletter was named in a contest in 1968 and the winning suggestion was the "Green Thumb" which is still produced monthly to this day, 24 May 2012.

Betty Foy, North Bay Horticultural Society

Auburn Horticultural Society Rural Land Stewardship Project

The Auburn Horticultural Society facilitated a Rural Land Stewardship Project in Sept 2011 and were the recipients of a RBC Blue Water Project grant awarded on June 8, 2012, on RBC Blue Water Day. The Society was awarded a \$1,500 grant to spend on source water protection. The grant was awarded through the Land Stewardship Sustainable Healthy Futures Source Water Protection program in association with RBC and the Huron Clean Water Project. Members of the society applied for the grant last fall.

The Stewardship Project provided education to residents in a village setting on environmental issues, providing information and resources to improve awareness of environmentally sustainable practices, creating community pride in a clean environment, promoting protection of sustainable resources, planting native species, and creating a culture of water stewardship.



From left: Land stewardship participant Dave Clark, RBC Senior Accounts Manager and Auburn Horticultural Society member Cathy Fisher, Marjorie Wise, Goderich RBC Branch Manager, Society President Karen Redmond, Society member Jacqui LaPorte, Society member and land stewardship participant Cathy Carter, Emily Andrews and Society member Shirley Andrews.

Congratulations to District 4 and editor Dianne Westlake on an excellent premier issue of their newsletter, **News 4 You**.



Markdale and District Annual Flower Show

The Markdale & District Horticultural Society held their last general meeting of the summer on Wednesday June 27th. It was also their annual flower show which in spite of spring weather that was hard on our plants presented an abundance of beautiful entries in both the specimen categories and the design themes.

There were a total of 105 entries by 15 participants. The award of Best in Show (Horticulture) was a Dahlia awarded to Sharon Ludlow; Best in Show (Design): "Controlled Burn" design was also awarded to Sharon; Judges' Choice: Ninebark, was awarded to Rosa Grinschgl; Honourable Mention to Olive Allen.

Carol Dunk, President of the Ontario Horticultural Association, was a special guest for the evening. She presented our group with a 100th Anniversary Certificate and Letter, from the OHA, and congratulations from 19 Districts representing 277 sister Societies.

Clive Cresswell, President, Markdale & District HS



Pictured: Clive Cresswell, President M&DHS, accepting the Certificate from Carol Dunk, OHA President



Cobourg's Youth Project

In August 2011 one of our Cobourg Horticultural Society members, Sherri Brule, approached the Executive to ask for assistance in developing a vegetable garden for the children at the Cobourg Daycare Centre where she works. She had begun a garden last spring, which the children much enjoyed, but she wanted to make it a more permanent part of the children's daily activities at the Centre.

Over many months, Sherri researched and planned the garden, with assistance from society members, in particular Shirley Ross, and Alexis Fentie. The club also provided her with a copy of a manual for making a children's garden produced by the Bowmanville Ecology Garden, which

our members had visited some time ago. Shirley Ross contacted another member, James Quelch, who teaches at the Cobourg District Collegiate Institute East, to involve his high school students in the project.

In the meantime, the Cobourg Society won a draw for a \$150 grant from District 4 for the purchase of materials for raised beds. Our Executive agreed to add \$50 of our society's funds, to make the total donation \$200. Local businesses gave generous discounts on the materials needed for the project. Parents of the daycare children raised an additional \$130, so that in total six 4' by 12' raised beds were constructed by CDIC East students. They also cleared the ground in preparation for the beds. Some of our members assisted in a Saturday morning blitz in late April to install the raised beds, moving soil, compost and mulch. Daycare families assisted, including one young brother and sister who helped to fill the raised beds. The Society had donated seeds from a members' Seed Exchange in March to the project.

The young children, and school age children who attend after-school programs at the Centre, are now going to have these beds permanently, and we trust will enjoy their gardening efforts, and especially eating what they have grown. Alexis Fentie has agreed to continue to be a resource for Sherri and the project throughout the growing season. This was a very well worth while community project, and we were delighted to help it along with advice, encouragement, some sweat equity, and the funds from OHA District 4.

Sarah Holland, President, Cobourg Horticultural Society

Brantford Garden Club 1852

Mad Hatter proudly displaying the Brantford Garden Club's new banner.

I'm Late, I'm Late...

On March 8th, my friends and I visited the Brantford Garden Club to attend their Mad Hatter Tea Party. We knew that this event was planned as part of their ongoing celebrations for their 160th Anniversary but had no idea what was in store for us that evening. We were pleasantly surprised.

First of all, we were greeted by several friendly Alice in Wonderland characters and their brightly costumed friends. The Mad Hatter, the King of Hearts, a Lady Bug, Cowboy and many other characters were there to entertain us. After a short delay to the start of the meeting, we were all surprised by an adult-sized "White Rabbit", complete with a cute, fuzzy cottontail, scurrying from the back of the room, holding a huge clock, saying, "I'm late, I'm late for a very important date".

What a fun-filled night! There were trivia games, great prizes, interesting workshop/demonstrations, plenty of laughs, and excellent food. Congratulations, Brantford on 160 years of excellence in serving your community. Also, thank you for a great evening especially for ignoring the "Off with her head" comment when I won the Alice in Wonderland Trivia game!

Donna Hussey, D6 Director

A Gem to Discover

Travelling along Highway 7, heading east or west, the signs erected on prominent stone pillars welcome both residents and visitors to the Village of Omemee.

These striking stone structures were built in 2010 with money from the legacy fund of the sale of Omemee Hydro. In July 2011, when the Community in Bloom judges visited Omemee, they remarked that entrance signs needed some landscaping around the base to enhance their beauty. With the experience of designing and developing the Memorial garden at the Omemee Legion in 2011 behind her, Master Gardener Joanne Windrem started to plan the gardens for the base

of the stone signs in January of 2012. While she was on holiday in Florida she began to contact volunteer contractors, suppliers for armour stone, triple mix and mulch as well as doing the research for suitable perennials, shrubs that would thrive in the harsh roadside location.

After all the regulations were met and the paperwork completed the project was accomplished jointly by the City of Kawartha Lakes through a Communities in Bloom Beautification project grant and by the Omemee and District Horticultural Society in July 2012. We are very grateful for the generosity of the businesses, contractors and volunteers.

Dawn Tack from Gardens Plus in Peterborough supplied us with large established perennials to provide instant colour and impact in this first growing season. The three day lilies selected are Happy Returns a soft yellow, Little Wine Cup a deep wine red, and Endless Heart, a watermelon red. They have the reputation to be the best re-bloomers and are also drought and salt tolerant, as well as being very low maintenance.

"Caradonna" salvia nemrosa has a bright violet blue flower with dark burgundy stems. This plant is also drought tolerant and a prolific bloomer. Dwarf Royal Burgundy Barberry was chosen for its beautiful burgundy foliage and its drought tolerance, as well as mature size being two feet high and three feet wide providing good colour without obscuring the natural stonework.

The Armour stone was supplied by *Jeff Parnell Contracting*. The contract work was supplied by *James*



Hubbert Contracting and Justin Windrem Farms who picked out and delivered armour stone from the Buckhorn quarry. They removed the existing gravel and backfill, prepared site for installation of the armour stone, installed the stone, supplied triple mix and compost for flower beds and prepared the area around sign beds by levelling and adding topsoil in preparation for laying sod.

Planting and mulching was done by the Garden Committee volunteers. *Aron Muscutt* is a professional horticulturist and member of the Omemee and District Horticultural Society and co-chairs the Omemee Public Gardens Committee with Joanne. We also thank Aron for his expertise, suggestions, experience, and contribution of his time and talent to complete this 2012 Omemee village project. The critical watering has been done by volunteer members with a portable water tank to establish the plants during the drought we have had this year. All the plant material was specifically selected for this project and will survive without supplementary watering once they are established as there is no water supply for these beds.

Along Highway 7 many communities are laid out as individual beads in a string of pearls. Omemee is just a tiny bead in this string along the highway but it boasts the highest record of traffic in the beautiful City of Kawartha Lakes. Now these attractive new gardens at the base of the signs bid everyone "Welcome to Omemee!"

Heather Grassie, President, Omemee and District Horticultural Society

10 Neat Things about Pollination

1. All grasses are pollinated by wind.

The entire plant family Poaceae (formerly Graminaceae) is wind-pollinated. This includes the usual turf grasses as well as ornamental grasses and cereal crops. Pollen that is transferred by wind is, of necessity, very small and light, which is why many grasses are highly allergenic; the wind carries the pollen right up your nose.



2. Thanks to the bees.

If one-third of the food you eat comes from bee-pollinated plants, you eat a heck of a lot of fruit and legumes. Since cereal crops are wind-pollinated, and since livestock tend to be fed cereal crops, the typical North American diet is probably more like 20-per cent bee-pollinated or even less. Still, who wants to live without strawberries, peas and peaches? If I knew a way to tell bees thank you, I'd certainly employ it!

3. Thanks to the un-bumble bees.

Bumble bees tend to get the job done better. The advantage of honey bees is that they are more docile and easier to work with, and they come in large, above-ground colonies. One could leave food crop pollination up to wild bees, but there is more certainty in having honey bees brought in to do the job at the right time.

4. Here's the buzz!

Some plants are buzz pollinated, and only bees can effectively and reliably produce this function.

Tomatoes, blueberries and eggplants are some of the eight per cent of plants that prefer to be pollinated by this close, rapid movement. Bumble bees can buzz pollinate; honey bees cannot.



5. To each his own.

Butterflies show a preference for flowers in the pink and lavender range; bees are more highly attracted to yellows and blues. Colour is not the only attractant, though; butterflies are attracted by heavy scent and they tend to require plants with ample room for landing on, since they do not hover while they drink. Bees are happy with bell-shaped or tubular flowers, like foxgloves, but it would take a mighty talented butterfly to get nectar from the same plants.

6. Sweeter than honey.

Butterflies cannot digest pollen. They are interested only in the nectar (along with mosquitoes). Bees, however, take both pollen and nectar; pollen is their main source of protein, and more is given to larvae intended to be queens than to other bees.

7. Moonlight marauders.

Since most moths are active in the darker hours - from dusk through dawn - night-blooming white

flowers are, presumably, more visible (because they reflect more of the limited light than do other colours). Flowers that depend on pollination by moths also tend to be highly scented at night.

8. The dark side of the story.

Some flowers, usually brown-coloured and rank-smelling, aim to attract types of flies that feed on carrion or dung. These tricky flowers, having enticed the fly to them, often trap the fly with sticky substances.



9. All about colour for hummers.

Most birds don't smell very well and flowers that are pollinated primarily by hummingbirds don't tend to be heavily scented. Hummingbirds are, however, attracted to large flowers in the orange to red colour range, usually on tall stalks with big tubular blooms.

10. Water and beetles do their part.

Aquatic plants are pollinated by water the way grasses are pollinated by wind. Some big, white bell-shaped flowers attract bats. Beetles are important pollinators in semi-desert areas. It is important to note, too, that many plants have a wide variety of strategies and attractants to ensure they get pollinated by a variety of possible means.

Dorothy Dobbie Reprinted with Permission